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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/966,551	09/26/2001	Bobby W. Sanders	26272/04003	5266

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EXAMINER

DINH, TIEN QUANG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3644

DATE MAILED: 06/20/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/966,551

Applicant(s)

SANDERS ET AL

Examiner

Tien Dinh

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 March 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 12-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 12-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

It is not understood how substantially all of the compression takes place in the internal compression surfaces of the applicant's invention when the inlet leading edges are staggered. Wouldn't this make much of the compression takes place outside of the inlet duct? Please explain.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Karanian.

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Karanian discloses a supersonic inlet having an internal duct with internal compression surfaces where substantially all of the compression takes place, throat section 26 that includes a shock stability bleed system where a portion of the airflow is removed so that the shock wave is maintained within the throat section (see figures 1-3), centerbody 14, and the leading edge of the internal duct is staggered to the leading edge of the centerbody.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-8, 12, 13, 14, 16, and 17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Koncsek et al.

Koncsek et al teaches an internal compression supersonic aircraft inlet that has an axisymmetric internal duct with compression angled surfaces where substantially all of the isentropic compressions take place, throat section, shock stability bleed system having one or more bleed passages 120, 122 so that the shockwave is maintained at the throat section (see figures 8, 9). Koncsek et al also teaches the bleed passages have a variable area exit ¹²⁵28 and the movable sidewalls 54, 56. As for the internal duct being rectangular, please note that in column 5, lines 44-56, Koncsek teaches using rectangular shapes on his system. The inlets and exterior surfaces are aligned and substantially parallel to the flow of air to the inlet.

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Re claim 6, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have made the exterior rectangular in Koncsek et al's system to match his internal rectangular inlet for easier manufacturing or improve the aerodynamics of the aircraft.

Re claim 13, the bleed passages 58, 60 can be fixed if they are not moved by the operators of the aircraft. This bleed passages make the internal duct have porous surfaces.

Re claim 17, the exit of the inlet is where the throat is located. This would make the interior surfaces of the internal duct have a continuous surfaces from the opening to the exit.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koncsek et al as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Syberg.

Koncsek et al discloses all claimed parts except for the exterior surfaces having a rectangular cross-section which transition to a round nacelle. However, Syberg teaches that an exterior surfaces having a rectangular cross-section which transition to a round nacelle are well known in the art.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have made the exterior surfaces of Koncsek et al's have an exterior surfaces having a rectangular cross-section which transition to a round nacelle as taught by Syberg to accommodate certain aircrafts and to improve its aerodynamics.

Claim 18, as best understood, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koncsek et al in view of Tindell.

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Koncsek et al discloses all claimed parts except for the staggered leading edges.

However, Tindell teaches that leading edges that are staggered are well known in the art.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have made the leading edges of Koncsek et al's staggerd as taught by Tindell to accommodate certain aircrafts and to improve its aerodynamics.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tien Dinh whose telephone number is 703-308-2789. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-6.

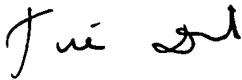
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Jordan can be reached on 703-306-4159. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-306-4195 for regular communications and 703-306-4195 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-4195.

TD

June 15, 2003

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tui".